



making the arts accessible since 1985



Arts for All, Inc.
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Arts for All, Inc.

2013 - 2014

Tucson, AZ

Federal Legislative District(s): 7

PROGRAM FAST FACTS

Congressional Districts: 7
State Legislative Districts: 27
Service Area: Pima County / Tucson
Project Federal Share: \$ 125,000
Project Local Match: \$ 0
Community Volunteers Recruited: 47
Volunteer Hours Served: 4,008.5
Value of Volunteer Hours: \$83,377

Community Need

Arts for All, Inc. addresses the compelling community needs of the City of Tucson and Arizona Department of Economic Security/Division of Developmental Disabilities (DES/DDD) of "Caring, Healthy Families and Youth" by including opportunities and services that support Tucson's families and youth.

Arts for All's general program goals are 1)To provide the highest quality arts programming, 2)To address the individual needs of all of our participants on a one-to-one basis, 3)To provide the best care possible, 4)To provide creative, interesting and stimulating activities through a variety of ways, 5)To remain flexible in outlook and acknowledge the potential of individuals, 6)To provide an avenue for community awareness of people with disabilities and 7)To provide a safe environment where trusting relationships flourish.

Program Activities

Arts for All, Inc. consist of 4 different projects. These are Preschool, Out-Of-School Time, Summer Arts Camp, and Day Program for adults with disabilities. Support services include personal and attendant care, transportation and respite services. AmeriCorps members and volunteers assist staff in all of these projects by providing accessibility accommodations, personal care, education/training and experiences in the arts. 84% of the students come from low income homes and 57% have a disability. AmeriCorps members learn how to effectively work with children with and without disabilities and adults with various disabilities.

Program Impact

Arts for All, Inc. is one of the few accessible arts organizations in the country. By providing support, personal care, and assistance throughout the 4 projects individuals are able to find success through creative and imaginative means. During the 2012-2013 program year, AmeriCorps members provided activities to reduce childhood obesity and increase physical fitness ability to 3,644 youth.



Continuation - Arts for All, Inc. Tucson, Arizona

Mission

Arts for All, Inc.'s mission is to provide accessible experiences, education and training in the arts for children, primarily those with special needs.

Vision

The vision of the organization is to provide high quality, accessible and meaningful experiences, education and training to individuals, primarily those from low income homes and those with a disability; demonstrating for one person at a time, the creativity and imagination that are within each of us.

History

Arts for All, a non-profit corporation, began in 1979 by artist Steven L. Sles. In August of 1985, Third St. Kids was founded by Marcia Berger, an innovative pediatric physical therapist, to provide an after-school program in the performing arts for children with and without disabilities. In 1986, the non-profit corporation was turned over to Marcia Berger by its founder; and thus, Arts for All and Third St. Kids became one. The students, ages two through adulthood, come from throughout the greater Tucson, Arizona area. All aspects of the program exemplify integration for children with and without disabilities. Arts for All currently provides special considerations during the planning and programming for persons with physical disabilities, visual limitations, hearing impairments, learning disabilities, cognitive limitations, emotional disturbances, mental illness, behavior problems, autism, and seizure disorders. This year celebrates the 11th year that Arts for All has been an AmeriCorps site.



Partnerships

Arts for All, Inc. partners with a variety of organizations including:

Arizona Commission on the Arts, Arizona Department of Economic Security/Division of Child Care, Arizona Department of Economic Security/Division of Developmental Disabilities (DES/DDD), Balboa Heights Neighborhood Association; Beach, Fleischman & Co. P.C.; City of Tucson, In Balance, Tucson Area School Districts, United Way

OTHER

Arts for All is a one-of-a-kind organization that merges the arts and human services. It owns its own fully accessible arts center close to downtown Tucson with studios dedicated to art, ceramics, music, recording, dance and drama. AmeriCorps members and staff learn the guiding principles of being a direct support professional. Services are rendered in English, Spanish and American Sign Language. Through the arts, AmeriCorps members develop self confidence and job skills while positively impacting the lives of others.

